NUMB. CXIII.

The GUARDIAN.

——Amphora cæpit
Inſtitui, currente rotâ, cur Urceus exit? Hor.

Tueſday, July 21. 1713.

I Laſt Night received a Letter from an honeſt Citizen who it ſeems is in his Honey-Moon. It is written by a plain Man on a plain Subject, but has an Air of good Senſe and natural Honeſty in it, which may perhaps pleaſe the Publick as much as my ſelf. I ſhall not therefore ſcruple the giving it a Place in my Paper, which is deſigned for common Uſe, and for the Benefit of the Poor as well as Rich.

Good Mr. IRONSIDE, Cheapſide, July 18.

'I Have lately married a very pretty Body, who 'being ſomething younger and richer than my 'ſelf, I was adviſed to go a Wooing to her in a 'finer Suit of Cloaths than I ever wore in my Life; 'for I love to Dreſs plain and ſuitable to a Man of 'my Rank. However, I gained her Heart by it. 'Upon the Wedding-day I put my ſelf, according 'to Cuſtom, in another Suit Fire-new, with Silver 'Buttons to it. I am ſo out of Countenance a-'mong my Neighbours upon being ſo fine, that I 'heartily wiſh my Cloaths well worn out. I fancy 'every body obſerves me as I walk the Street, 'and long to be in my old plain Geer again. Be-'ſides, forſooth, they have put me in a Silk 'Night-gown and a gaudy Fool's Cap, and 'make me now and then ſtand in the Window 'with it. I am aſham'd to be dandled thus, and 'can't look in the Glaſs without bluſhing to ſee 'my ſelf turned into ſuch a pretty little Maſter. 'They tell me I muſt appear in my Wedding Suit 'for the firſt Month at leaſt; after which I am re-'ſolved to come again to my every Day's Cloaths, 'for at preſent every Day is *Sunday* with me. Now 'in my Mind, Mr. IRONSIDE, this is the wrong-'eſt way of proceeding in the World. When a 'Man's Perſon is new and unaccuſtomed to a 'young Body, he does not want any thing elſe to 'ſet him off. The Novelty of the Lover has more 'Charms than a Wedding Suit. I ſhould think 'therefore, that a Man ſhould keep his Finery for 'the latter Seaſons of Marriage, and not begin to 'Dreſs till the Honey-moon is over. I have obſerved 'at a Lord Mayor's Feaſt, that the Sweetmeats don't 'make their Appearance till People are cloy'd with 'Beef and Mutton, and begin to loſe their Stomachs. 'But inſtead of this we ſerve up Delicacies to our 'Gueſts, when their Appetites are keen, and coarſe 'Diet when their Bellies are full. As bad as I hate 'my Silver-button'd Coat and Silk Night-Gown, 'I am afraid of leaving them off, not knowing 'whether my Wife won't repent of her Marriage 'when ſhe ſees what a plain Man ſhe has to her 'Husband. Pray, Mr. IRONSIDE, write ſome-'thing to prepare her for it, and let me know 'whether you think ſhe can ever love me in a Hair 'Button.

I am, &c.

P. S. 'I forgot to tell you of my White Gloves, 'which, they ſay too, I muſt wear all the firſt 'Month.

My

My Correſpondent's Obſervations are very juſt, and may be uſeful in low Life, but to turn them to the Advantage of People in higher Stations, I ſhall raiſe the Moral, and obſerve ſomething Parallel to the Wooing and Wedding Suit, in the Behaviour of Perſons of Figure. After long Experience in the World, and Reflections upon Mankind, I find one particular occaſion of Unhappy Marriages, which, though very common, is not very much attended to. What I mean is this. Every Man in the time of Courtſhip, and in the firſt Entrance of Marriage, puts on a Behaviour like my Correſpondent's Holiday Suit, which is to laſt no longer than till he is ſettled in the Poſſeſſion of his Miſtreſs. He reſigns his Inclinations and Underſtanding to her Humour and Opinion. He neither Loves, nor Hates, nor Talks, nor Thinks in Contradiction to her. He is controuled by a Nod, mortified by a Frown, and tranſported by a Smile. The poor young Lady falls in Love with this ſupple Creature, and expects of him the ſame Behaviour for Life. In a little time ſhe finds that he has a Will of his own, that he pretends to diſlike what ſhe approves, and that inſtead of treating her like a Goddeſs, he uſes her like a Woman. What ſtill makes the Misfortune worſe, we find the moſt abject Flatterers degenerate into the greateſt Tyrants. This Naturally fills the Spouſe with Sullenneſs and Diſcontent, Spleen and Vapour, which, with a little diſcreet Management, make a very comfortable Marriage. I very much approve of my Friend *Tom. Trulove* in this Particular. *Tom.* made Love to a Woman of Senſe, and always treated her as ſuch during the whole time of Courtſhip. His natural Temper and Good-breeding hindred him from doing any thing diſagreeable, as his Sincerity and Frankneſs of Behaviour made him converſe with her, before Marriage, in the ſame manner he intended to continue to do afterwards. *Tom.* would often tell her, Madam, you ſee what a ſort of Man I am. If you will take me with all my Faults about me, I promiſe to mend rather than grow worſe. I remember *Tom.* was once hinting his diſlike of ſome little Trifle his Miſtreſs had ſaid or done. Upon which ſhe asked him, now he would talk to her after Marriage if he talked at this Rate before? No, Madam, ſays *Tom.* I mention this now becauſe you are at your own diſpoſal, were you at mine I ſhould be too generous to do it. In ſhort *Tom.* ſucceeded, and has ever ſince been better than his Word. The Lady has been diſappointed on the right Side, and has found nothing more diſagreeable in the Huſband than ſhe diſcovered in the Lover.

This Paper is to be had of Mr. Yemes *under the* Thatch'd-houſe *Tavern in St.* James's-ſtreet; *Mrs.* Bond *at* Charing-croſs; *Mrs.* Bolter *and Mrs.* Dodd *near the* Temple-gate; *and Mr.* Round *in* Exchange-Ally.

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LONDON: Printed for *J. Tonſon* in the *Strand*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in. 1713.